

The Alexandria Gazette.

VOLUME LXV.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., THURSDAY EVENING, JANUARY 14, 1864.

NUMBER 12.

PUBLISHED (DAILY) BY
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OFFICE—No. 104 King street, over
S. one's, (formerly French's) Book Store.

THE CONVENTIONS.—In the officially reported proceedings of the "District" and "County Conventions" which met at the Court House, in this place, on Tuesday afternoon, the following appears:

In the "District Convention" W. L. Penn, Wm. B. White and John R. Gray, were appointed to the vacancies occasioned by the absence of delegates from Alexandria county, and took their seats in the Convention.

"Capt. Samuel Baker, of Alexandria, nominated S. Ferguson Beach, Esq.

Mr. Brooks, of Fairfax, nominated Jefferson Tacey, Esq.

On the first ballot Mr. Beach received 14 votes and Mr. Tacey, 10.

Mr. Beach was then declared nominated, after which his nomination was made unanimous the Convention pledging him a hearty support.

Mr. T. I. Edelin, offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this Convention expresses its condemnation for certain citizens of Virginia who are only Union men when it is convenient for them to receive some favor from either the civil or military powers.

Resolved, That as Union citizens of Virginia we shall make it a test of loyalty of those who have taken the oath of allegiance, to come to the polls and thereby indicate their willingness to support, and their adhesion to, the State Government as re-organized by the loyal people of the State, through the assistance of the General Government.

Resolved, That we regret to find so many men employed in the Government service who are unwilling to support by their votes and influence the cause which they pretend to serve.

Mr. E. E. Mason, of Fairfax, moved to amend by endorsing the Sixth Section of the bill providing for the calling of the Convention to amend the Constitution of the State.—The amendment was accepted, and the resolutions then passed unanimously."

In the "County Convention," "as there were no delegates present from the 5th District, the committee appointed Capt. Treacle, Larkin Patton and J. C. Clark, to fill the vacancies. The vacancy from the 3rd District was filled by W. L. Penn, and from the 1st District by W. W. White and John R. Gray."

Andrew Jamieson was chairman, and W. N. Berkley secretary of both conventions.

The resolution of inquiry proposed by Fernando Wood, proposing an investigation of certain grave charges made against Gen. Butler, and into the alleged frauds in the Custom House of New York, and other branches of the Treasury Department, was laid on the table in the lower branch of the U. S. Congress, by a vote of Yeas, 77; Nays, 63.

The reports as to the prevalence of small-pox in Washington are much exaggerated.—Though it prevails to a greater extent than heretofore, it is generally in a mild form, and there are comparatively few deaths.

From Tennessee.

The Philadelphia Inquirer publishes a dispatch from Chattanooga, dated on the 12th, which says, that affairs in East Tennessee are very exciting. A heavy cavalry fight is said to have occurred near Strawberry Plains on Saturday last. No particulars whatever are given, but it is stated that "the enemy were repulsed with severe loss." The dispatch then proceeds to state that "Longstreet has been heavily reinforced from Lee's and Johnston's armies, that reinforcements from Johnston's army are on the south side of the Holstein river; that Longstreet's headquarters are at Red Bridge; that the Federal picket lines front each other at Blair's Cross Roads, twenty miles northeast of Knoxville; that the Federal repulse at Bean's Station was very trifling; that Longstreet's position is a splendid one, presenting a river and mountain front; that Forrest has been badly handled in West and Middle Tennessee, but has managed to escape with most of his command. The Confederate army in front is reported to have been largely increased by conscripts. Johnston maintains a bold front at Tunnel Hill and Dalton. Gen. Grant left Knoxville via Cumberland Gap, making a complete circuit of the department, having reached Knoxville via Chattanooga.

EAST TENNESSEE.—From Col. Taylor's description of Burnside's campaign we make this extract:

"From before Zollikoffer, ten miles above Carter Station, Burnside fell back towards Knoxville, the Confederates cautiously following. From Buhl's Gap he turned upon them, and drove them again across the Watauga, and beyond the Virginia line. Again the Union forces retired, and again the Rebels advanced, each army supplying itself from the country around. Surging forward and back, these two armies four times advanced and retrograded, widening at each movement the desolation that marked their track. What the Rebels spared the Federals took, and what the Federals left was appropriated by the Rebels; and robbers who found rallying points and secure hiding places in the mountains of the substance of this plundered people and completed their ruin. Thus our cribs and smoke-houses, our barns and dwellings have been emptied and pillaged. Our women and children have been divested of their wearing apparel, and even the webs of domestic cloth in their looms destined for winter clothing, have been cut out and carried away. Our tanneries have fared no better, and the limited amount of leather which might have shod a portion of our women and old men, has been seized, and they are left barefooted to struggle through the winter."

Another Caucus.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—At an adjourned meeting of the opposition members of Congress, the following resolution was passed.

Resolved, That we are for the restoration of all the States to the Union. That patriotism and true statesmanship demand that such policy shall be pursued towards the people of the States in which the insurrection exists, as shall be best calculated to bring the expensive and exhausting war in which we are now engaged to a close, and to restore said States to the Union under the constitution, with all the constitutional rights of the people unimpaired.

FROM THE SOUTH.

Richmond papers of the 1st and 2d via Norfolk have been received in New York and the papers of that city publish the following:

The Sentinel says that indications favor the idea that the Federals contemplate an advance on Kingston, N. C., with a view to the extension of the lines, which now reach from Trenton on the west and Oak River on the south. The movement anticipated will probably carry the lines to New River on the one hand and Kingston on the other. A demonstration is expected upon the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, thus threatening the communication with Richmond.

Jackson's operations against Averill resulted in the capture of an ambulance train, with two hundred prisoners, including eight of Averill's officers, his adjutant general, a lieutenant colonel, a number of campaign maps and about fifty negroes.

The inauguration of Gov. Smith took place on the 1st.

An order has been issued from the War Department prohibiting the departure of any male citizen from the Confederacy during the pending war, unless he shall first file in the department a certificate from the proper military authorities that he is unfit for military service.

A dispatch from Jonesborough, Tenn., dated Jan. 1, says a courier from Morristown reports that heavy skirmishing has been going on between our cavalry and the enemy, who were advancing in that direction. No particulars received further than that their advance had been driven back.

All of the London and Paris correspondents of the New York journals express some solicitude concerning the Confederate rams that are fitting out, one at Calais, and two at Bordeaux. The belief is that the Emperor, following the example of England in regard to the Laird rams, will detain them; still as long as that determination is not openly declared, there is a chance that the steamers may slip out to sea, and hence the anxiety that is felt.

A gentleman of Boston, who had complied with the very excellent city ordinance which there, as here, exists, though often and with impunity violated, and had the sidewalk before his own house cleared of the snow, fell on the ice occasioned by the neglect of his next door neighbor, and was killed. We don't know that this hint will do any good, but we throw it out nevertheless.

The Norfolk Old Dominion of the 7th inst., says that a French sloop of war is bound to City Point for a cargo of tobacco, arrangements having been perfected with the Confederate and Federal Governments for the consummation of that end.

There is an "American Buttonhole Company" in operation in Massachusetts. We have had (and who has not?) the pleasure of encountering more than one of the graduates of such an institution in our time.